

73-126/19



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

The Honorable Richard Ichord, Chairman
Committee on Internal Security
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your request of January 2, 1973, concerning the recommendations contained in Chapter V of a report of your Committee entitled, "The Federal Civilian Employee Loyalty Program."

The National Security Act of 1947 and the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 impose a specific security responsibility on the Director of Central Intelligence to protect intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure. These acts also provide the Director with the authority necessary to carry out this responsibility with respect to the investigation, hiring, and termination of personnel.

Since all positions in this Agency may involve exposure to the most sensitive information concerning the national security, we do not believe differentiations between the degrees of sensitivity of positions, as suggested in your report, are applicable to this Agency.

The remaining recommendations appear to be concerned principally with the integrity and efficient operation of Executive agencies generally. It is believed that this can be best accomplished with respect to this Agency if our security and loyalty programs continue to function in conformance with existing provisions of law.

Sincerely,

James R. Schlesinger
Director

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM: John M. Maury Legislative Counsel		EXTENSION		NO. OLC 73-0014	
				DATE 15 February 1973	
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)	
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED			
1. Ex. Dir.	2/15			<p>Attached for the Director's signature is a response to the request of Chairman Ichord, House Internal Security Committee, for such comments <u>as the Agency might desire to submit on Committee recommendations for Executive agency action to correct deficiencies in employee loyalty and security programs.</u></p> <p>Although we are not faced with a flat out request from the Committee, the attached response is recommended since: the Committee would like us to be as responsive as possible; it avoids commenting on the merits of a somewhat controversial issue; and it is a good opportunity to go on the record concerning the Director's unique statutory responsibilities and authorities.</p> <p>The letter has been coordinated with the DD/S and the General Counsel. OMB sees no particular problem and the responsible Committee officer feels that comments along these lines would be fully responsive to their interests.</p> <div style="background-color: black; width: 200px; height: 30px; margin: 10px auto;"></div> <p style="text-align: right;">John M. Maury Legislative Counsel</p>	
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